DOWN A LUMBER CHUTE

A CALIFORNIA WATER-SLIDE OF FIFTY-TWO MILES.

Novel Experience of Tobogganing in a Lumber Flume From the Summt of the Pine Mountains in the Town of Fresno-How the Flume Boats Are

What would the Eastern people, who delight in coasting hills a quarter or even a half mile long on wintry days, or baggan slide, say to a ride, a la toboggan, down a slide fifty miles long? There are several places in California where such an experience may be had. The ride is not only an uninterrupted constant slide for forty or fifty minutes from the start to finish, but is as thrilling, risky and rapid as any one might wish. Think of riding to a small craft even a murmur up the summit of the great trough, projecting in the air fifty or seventy feet above the earth. from a lofty mountain crest down Nearly everywhere in sight the canon through forests, across canons, shooting around precipices and crags, flying over cattle ranches, orchards and vineyards, and darting in this rude craft over people's flower-gardens and homes amid every picturesque scenery. Conthe fascination of traveling in hours down a watery toboggar slide from the snow-clad and ley peaks of the tallest Sierras down into a valley as balmy as a May morning and midsummer. Nowhere in the broad world may such an experience be

Flumes, by which cut lumber of logs floated from the forests spurs of the Sierra Nevada range down to the valleys below, are common They are built upon huge tresfeet, depending upon the level of the country traversed. All the flumes are V-shaped, and the water flowing through is a yard deep at the deepest When in operation the flume is gorged for a week at a time with lumber, which is fished out at the valley terminus of the flume, and sorted and piled ready for use. The longest flume is in northern California. It is sixtyfour miles long and cost \$430,000, where the lumber is cheap. A new flume was recently finished in Fresno County. is with this flume that this story deals. It leads from the immense pine forests on the mountains, 7,000 feet above the sea-level, down into San Josquin valley, at the little town of Collis, near Fresno. In other words, the flume starts amid the perpetual snows and ice of the Sierras and terminates amid growing vineyards and apricot orehards the semi-tropic San Joaquin. Stephenson Creek, in the mountains, supplies the water.

The flume boats, in which the rapid journeys are made down the flumes. are simple. They are made the shape of the V-boxes of the flumes. The upper ends of the boats are closed by boards nailed across, but left open to let out the water which splashes over the sides of the boat from time to time. Short boards are laid across for seats. depending upon how many persons are to make the journey. A carpenter can make one of these boats in half an hour. The boat is meant only for one journey, for none is ever hauled back for another younge. Only a little preparation is necessary for a trip of this kind, and half a dollar will buy enough lumber for the boat and a man is a poor carpenter indeed who cannot make his own vessel. The trip is made with litonce started there are few places where one can stop. The current is generally so rapid that it makes landing impos sible, and the voyager can only sit still and let the boat run. The first ride down the new flume

from start to finish was made a few days ago. The boat was made the evening before at the reservoir on Stephenson Creek, the eastern terminus of the flume, and everything was prepared for an early start, and ample provision was made for all emergencles, even to taking along a shotgun and rifles, the former for killing quail and birds, the latter for bear or any large game that might be seen, for the flume, during more than thirty miles of its course, passes through a wild region of mountains, hills and forests, abounding in game from the smallest bird to the largest animal.

The passenger does not realize just how he gets into the boat, nor how he makes the start. It is all over before he has time to think. He has an ungovernable desire to clutch at things, but before he can do so he is gone, and the speed makes him catch his breath. and that is all he can do. The start has been, and it must be a race to the

Before the passenger has time to look back or forward or to ask any questions he has run the first half mile. and is sweeping around a curve, which opens to his vision a sight not pleasant to contemplate. The flume passes between two walls of rock and then out along the face of a solid rock, forming the side of Stephenson Mountain. one can look down while speeding across the giddy height, he will see beneath him the canon of the creek, deep down in the shadows of morning, at most dark with the depths. The boat seems flying through space. It is only a moment till the giddy place is passed. and the boat darts into a mass of gloomy growing against the side of the mountain.

The place just behind was one of the most perilous in the flume. In building the structure the workmen could not find Tooting, and were let down by rones from the brink of the cliff above and thus they hung while with hammer and drill they cut holes in the solid rock and made anchorages in which to hang the flume. Now it rests there perhaps solid enough, and probably safe enough, but one has strange feelings as he sits in a narrow boat and makes the voyage in midair like a bird, not knowing when one of the cleats will snap and let the whole structure plunge into the

depths beneath. On that morning there were many and large teicles hanging under the flume. Sometimes the ice was piled up from the ground to the flume twenty thirty feet, in columns and arches. having the appearance of marble of intense whiteness. If the water is pernitted to flow all winter in the flume there might be danger that the ice would accumulate till the weight or some of the high trestles would be suflcient to drag the entire structure

After a four-mile run the boat sud lenly emerges from a forest of pines and fir and the passengers in the boat experience the feeling of a person in a alloon, when the world seems to drop away from under him. The flume runs out over a high trestle, and at first glance nothing is visible underneath There seems to be nothing but un-fathomable space. This is near the turn round the point of Stephenson Mountain, and the vast abyss beneath, which seemed bottomless, is the canon of the San Joaquin River, down just how far who go into eestasy at shooting a to- beneath it would be hard to guess. It ooks not less than 3,000 feet; it may

But by leaning over as the boat hurdes by one can catch a momentary view of the white foam of the river of the canon. Not a sound is heard. plunging of the river over the sunken rocks that fret its channel cannot send eliff from which the passenger in the flume boat looks down as he hurrles on. is dark at that hour of the morning, but at two or three places the sunlight pours through the gateway in the cliffs and the beams fall on foaming floods. silent in the distance, and gild the blackness of the granite cliffs, which hang like walls a thousand feet above

The passenger cannot look twice the scene. The next minute he has passed again into timber; then comes amid vegetation as fresh and luxuriant curve after curve around a rocky mountain, and after a little while the can at which had seemed so nearly bottomless has been left behind. The first twelve miles of the journey bring the traveler to the western face of Pine Ridge, the primeval and the sawmills on the last drift of snow disappears and the stately groves of sugar pine and arborvitae begin to give place to tanthis coast from San Diego to Van- gled thickets of manzanita and chaparral, and the starved and stunted digties and vary in height from 10 to 100 ger pines and gnarled jack oaks take the place of the tamaracks which grow about the reservoir at the starting place. Climate succeeds climate as the boat rushes from ridge to ridge.

Passing around the mountain at the head of Dry Creek, Fresno City, fortyfives miles distant, is seen, with the morning sun kindling on the metal roofs and glancing from the dome of the court-house so far away that it seems a speck of light.

Although the roughest parts of the ountains are left behind after the head of Dry Creek is reached, the flum: has still some of its steepest grades below that point. The decline is not uniform, varying from a hardly perceptible grade to as much as one foot in Down the steepest places the boat rushes at a speed which approaches very nearly the limit of safety. Within five or six miles further the flume sweeps around the brink of a high, bold gran Ite cliff, and two miles away and 2000 feet below the little village of Toll Houre bursts into view. Green fields sur and it even in winter, but it has a forsaken appearance, for its days of prosperity are numbered. It was thirty years a stopping place for teamsters hauling lumber from the mountains. but the flume will bring lumber down hereafter, and the teams will never re-

When the flume has passed Tol House it has entered the foothills and the excitement is over. The way leads for twenty miles down a narrow valey, and the passengers in the boat have nothing to alarm them as they glide tions so smoothly and peacefully that if they shut their eyes they would probably fall asleep. The speed grows less as the plains are approached, and now and then vineyards or an orange orchard are seen standing in pleasing flume. The principal trouble is when From the foot of the hills the distance o the of the flume at Clovis is about welve miles and the speed lessens all the time. Hefore the end is reached the flume-boat passes over fine vineyards,in which even so late in the season as Deember large quantities of grapes load the vines.

The end came at last, and so slowly was the little boat moving that the touch of a hand was sufficient to bring t to stop, and the romantic ride of fifty-two miles was done. It has occupled four hours, and the boat in that time had carried its passengers from a region of winter, with its ice and snow, into a country where grapes still loaded the vines.-Pittsburg Gazette.

THE NEGLECT OF THE POLI-

TICIAN. At first sight, then, it seems remarkable that in the past sixty years we should have had not more than twocore novels concerned with American politics, and that of these not more than half a dozen should have dealt ing all those who occupy public offices, control them, or create them-in a fashtimid or triffing manner in which the politician has often been approached uggests either complete ignorance of, or indifference to, the romantic pessibilities of his career. For this neglect there is an explanation, of course, if not a good reason. In the case of the proessional politician-the boss, wardworker, lobbyist or office holder of the lower grade-the explanation is conveyed as nearly as can be by the word "un-The average professional veliness." rious obliquities. If is dealings are largely with men of his own mould; his fining influences. In physical appeara popular error, which supposes that late hours, heavy drinking and the grosser dissipations are essential to the ultivation of that good fellowship which so many of our most successful olitical leaders baye made a foundaon stone in the edifice of their power. From "The Politician in Fiction." h Francis Churchill Williams, in the July

If the Baby is Cutting Teeth. Be sure and use that old and well-tried remedy, Mra. Winsiow's Boothing Syrup, for children's teething. It soothes the child, softens the gnms, allays all pain, cures wind coile, and is the best remedy for diarrhoea. Twenty-five cents a bottle, dli MWF & w 1y

PLOT AND CHARACTER.

SOME INTERESTING REMARKS BY ANDREW LANG.

Breezes That Ruffled the Tranquil Waters of Literature.

There has lately blown, perhaps ther is blowing still, one of those breeze ruffle the tranquil waters of literature The atmospheric conditions which generated the breeze, the tempest in the lit erary teapot, were the dramatic triumphs of Stephen Phillips. As is usual ly the case, these were not equally pleasing to all minds, but opposition would perhaps have been less acrinonlous if the author's favorable crities could have curbed their generous exxesses. Such excesses were natural in themselves, for it is not every day that a new writer arises who is certainly a poet, and whose plays can also be acted with success. The combination (if a calmer mind may venture to hazard an opinion) carried some critics "off their feet," as the conversation of Burns carried the Duchess of Gordon. In the old Scots phrase the reviewers were "car were excited, and admiration verged on engouement. So, at least, I am inclined to think, after reading of little green-backed florllegium, or "Cenury of Prayse," put forth by the poet's publisher. Not only was he comparedf my memory is correct-to "him who sleeps by Avon," but to Racine, Sophocles, Milton and the author of "The Three Musketeers." Something of this kind appears to have irritated the critics of "The Saturday Review," "The Athenaeum" and "The Quarterly Re dew." These censors were so much of he same humor that they textually repeated some of each other's remarks. he three periodicals, as Mr. Sidney Colin has demonstrated, a circumstance all of interest to the psychologist. The ubliminal selves of the three critics apear to have been in a mystic rapport with each other. One of the three erted that character is the main thing n the drama, against which Churton Collins quoted Aristotle, who declares that in a play the plot is the thing-plot and incident and action. Hereon I ventured to hint that Aristotle need not be always in the right, that he has long ceased to be a dictator in literature or science, and that we canot regard plot and choracter, which really interpene-trate each other, as if they could be

held totally distinct and apart. Looking at novels (a genre of which Aristotle knew nothing), we find critics usually regarding character as much more essential than plot. Dickens, Thackeray and Scott live by the merits of their characters. Nobody can that the mere plots of "Rob Rob, "Pendennis," or "David Copperfield. ire of great merit; they are articularly intelligible. The machinery old fashioned and hackneyed; the frauds of Rashleigh nysterious bigamies of Colonel Altamont, In fact, the whole set of ficelles, are outworn and unimportant. They are mer onventions. In the same way Greek tragedy has her stock incidents tescribed by Aristotle. The "recogition" was one of them:

"Have you a strawberry mark on our left arm?"

"Then you are, you are, my long lost That was the kind of thing rendered

easible by the old folk-lore trick of exoosing a child about whom there was a disagreeable prophecy. The "recognition" was as common in Greek tragic scape painting of the eighteenth cen-"Where do you get in your brown of the mountains, now 4,000 feet above. tion was, in Greece, "How do you pop to the mountains, now 4,000 feet above." Now the plot so cour recognition the plat so inderstood, is a mechanical thing, mere harpentage: it may be well done, as in Tom Jones" and "Oediphus Tyranor as absurdly ill done as Cymbeline." or the conclusion of 'Hamlet." or in Shakespeare's careless, huddled, happy endings; or in "Rob Rob" or "Waverly." The great writers have been casual in the matter of plots. r even where they have been careful it is not for the plot but for the charicters that they are esteemed. does not smile at the plot of "Jane Eyre?" Yet if there were no such plots how could the character of Jane herself or of Dana Verson develop itself? The very peculiar and IR invented circumstances in which the plot places these interesting heroines enable them to exhibit the qualities which make them immortal. Take Imogen or Hermlone in "The Winter's Tale." It is their circorrowed from novels, which, again, were borrowed from folk tales-that give the heroines their opportunities. These charaters are the delight of man with the politician-by that word mean- kind; but the conditions in which they display their qualities, the incidents, the plot are things out of nature. The on to challenge serious attention. The plot is a more convention in many classical works of the first quality, ancient or modern. Homer borrowed the plot of the "Odyssey" fom three or four old Greek nursery tales, and from the "Odyssey" Mr. Phillips legitimately barrowed the plot of his "Ulysses" No known man invented that plot which, again, with modifications in lady "Ivanhoe." Where the poet shines is in making a noble character, an approcharacter, the here of politician, neither in ideas, bearing or ancient nay, the primitive, squence of brains and talents of some clever man appearance, parades such qualities as events; in developing the human and attached to the royal establishment. nvite admiration. His ethical code is a possible elements of the world old myth. maze of fine-drawn distinctions and ob- There can be no better plot than that of he frequently addressed the King's subthe "Odyssey," granting the machinery, the gods, Hades, Cyclops, and so forth, daily life is almost wholly devoid of re- | as traditional convention, like any other convention of art. In real life there ance he may advertise the free living are, practically, no plots, though most of charged against his calling generally by us may have found ourselves in the initiative and an ambition to play a first chapters of a plot. But we are conscientious or timid, or have common In a plot taken from history conventions need to be added; arbitrary inventian must come in, or the thing drags, and a plenty of "horse-sense" a man he stream is lost in the sands. Mr.

rototypes of the Musketeers.

s the sait of literature. There is, so to meak, nothing in the given plot, say f "Paolo and Francesca." A man fails n love with his brother's wife, and the husband revenges himself. (and Dante's "Paolo and Francesca," like Homer's "Had." "is the best") the thing is but an incident. But Dante essessed, in addition to his genius, the upreme advantage of being able to folow the lovers into the eternity of tornented and undying love. A dramatist cannot do that (though the Hades scene of "Ulysses" might be adapted to he purposet) and so the dramatist leses nest of the point. Once given the idea, he poet can treat it in Mr . Phillips eay, or in Leigh Hunt's way, or in Mr Marion Crawford's way, or, as the cookery books puts it, "another way. oubt if much can be made of it in any way. Dante has done what was needed nce for all. But, clearly, the one mair ldea being given from without, the new poet will, even in his own mind, hardly be able to disentagle plot and characte If he decides to make two of his characters veterans in Incest (as I believe Marion Crawford does), then he must make a plot determined by his characters. Another plot he must make if his characters are to be ingenuous young beginners in crime, "suave scelus, dulca flagitium." Thus predetermined charactor will be the making of the plot, and the plot will be the means, not, as in Aristotle's opinion, the end. The real nd (if I may differ from Aristotle) is the harmony and interaction of plot and character, for the purpose of developing and exhibiting character in action. take a thoroughly modern instance: Mr. Hornung's new novel, "The Shadow of the Rope." Mr. Hornung had, I think A really good character, the herein

But he had to make a plot to develo her, and I cannot honestly say that think the plot a good one. It breaks it elf on the many reefs of impossible, all but impossible, occurrences, not t nention that the old blotting pad and the antiquated blackmaling tramp ar introduced once more. Yet probably the the search, not very fortunate, for a plot: it would not be the plot that gave ise to the idea of the character, or so seems to one reader. In the Greece f Aristotle, however, it was not the haracters that were invented and needed a plot to fit them. The plot and haracters in outline had to be borrow Homer, in the Cyclic poets, or in temple legends. Thus the plot was the thing, was the only legitimate thing (with rare exceptions), and of the given plot the poet had to make the best use in his power. Now all the conditions ar altered.-From the London Morning

THE HEIR APPARENT.

The Heir Apparent to the British throne is the Prince of Wales, the only 37 years old, and, according to good authorities, is a young man of fair abili Osbaidistone, Mr. Micawber slways on ties, who takes a serious view of life the watch (of which he was incapable). The training which he received in the English navy made him self-reliant in speech and action. The discipline of the naval service is severe. When the Heir Apparent was serving his apprentice thip he was treated by his superiors. s said, just like an ordinary "middy. In the English army favoritism pro vails to an edious and demoralizing de-gree. The officer with a social "pull" ares much better than his comrade in arms who is neither rich nor of distin guished lineage. The committee of Ennglishmen who recently submitted a eathing report on the conditions precailing in the military service of Great Britain declared that brains, character and efficiency do not bring promotion o deserving army officers. In the navy here is reason to believe that a higher standard exists. "In our army," an eminent Englishman once said, "a man s rewarded for doing his duty, while In the navy he gets the devill if he doesn't do 1t.

If the Heir Apparent to the British frown has profited by his training as naval officer, his succession to the throne will not bring disaster upon England. He will do his duty, as he learned to do it when he was serving his apprenticeship in the navy. In addition, if he is a man of force, he will compel the "servants of the Crown" to do their duty. He will not be the slave of social influence. He will regard intellect and efficiency as of more value than coronets and Norman blood. Just after his return from his recent visit to the British Colonies, the Frince of Wales made an address in London lo which he observed that "the old country must wake up if it wanted to hold That is what American its own." friends of John Bull have been telling cumstances—quite out of nature, and him for several years. They have warned him that England is far behind the times when measured by the standard of the energetic and enterprising North American Republic. friends paid no heed to these azimonitions. They either smiled superciliously at Cousin Jonathan's advice or characterized his counsels as "Yankee imper-When the Helr Apparent tinence." made his astonishing declaration, England was in a more receptive mood. The Boers had made a laughtny stock of the British army, and the European nations were enjoying the discomfiture of the Angle-Saxon. England had to

'wake up" or succumb to disaster. The Heir Apparent to the British throne has ideas. When he is invited to make an address he actually prepares his own speeches instead of using the brains and talents of some clever man During his tour of the British Colonies fects. He is not a great orator or great thinker, but he has tact, good sense and judgment. England does not need a brilliant, aggressive man as A sovereign with too much King. great port in the international drama might get his country into trouble Great Britain is the British Parliament. But a "live" man, one with a level head in touch with the people, would be a Mason's "Clementina" is almost wholly power for good. Force alone cannot historical; he had only to develop the hold the British Empire together. There faint actual hint that the here and must be wisdom and mederation in high eroine fell in love with each other; to places. There must be respect for the throw in a few fanciful adventures and rights of man. There must not be too add a pair of sples. But history very much government from London. The eldom gives an author so god a chance | Australians and Canadians are loyal as in the adventure of the four Irish subjects of the Crown now because the Crown does not meddle offensively with In spite of Aristotle, who was not in- their affairs. If there should be another allible, and was writing about an art | English King like George III. the Britof very peculiar and obsolete traditions ish Empire would soon be dissolved.

and conditions, character, not plot (as The Heir Apparent knows the temper far as the two can be looked at uprt). of the British subjects in the self-governing dependencies of the Empire. He knows that their loyalty would not stand coercion in the slightest degree; that they are loyal chiefly because they are independent. It is well for Great Britain that the heir to the throne is

England could not do better than to

inder no delusions on this score

'wake up." She should "wake up" not to engage in new wars of conquest and slaughter, but to promote peace and to vin wictories in which battallons of oldiers and fleets of battleships play no part. This is an era of industrialism nd commerce. England should Javata er energies and resources to establishng her trade on a firm foundation and oproving the condition of her poor auperism prevails to an clarming exent in the British Islas. It may be the sault of the industrial system, it may e due to other causes. British statesten ought to be able to devise a remdy, whatever may be the cause of the auperlam which is a blot on Brids's ivilization. Great Britain does no eed more territory. She has more land ow than she can ever develop. There e social problems which demand solu on. Of what value to the many thouinds of pauper is the King's domin ns are the enormous stretches of terri ory which have been brought unde citish sovereignty? The King who vill induce his statesmen to adop neasures to eradicate pauperism wil eserve better of his subjects conarch who shuts his eyes to the mis ry at the doors of the palace and seeks ther world to conquer.-Baltlmore

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vas a brain worker. "Sure. He were himself out trying to remember what occurred the night be ore."-Baltimore News.

To the Board of County Commissioners for New Haven County:

I hereby apply for a license to sell Spirit-uous and introvicating Liquors, Ale. Lager Beor, Rbine Wine and Cider at 425 Grand Avenue, town of New Haven. My place of business is not located within 200 feet in a direct line of a Church Edifice, or Public School-boise, or the premises pertaining thereto, or any Post Office, Public Library or Cemetery. ccept the Prince of Wales' advice and

or Cemetery.
Dated at New Haven, this 21st day of June, A. D., 1902.
JAMES W. HOEY, Applicant. JAMES W. HOEY. Applicant.
We, the undersigned, electors and trapayors, as defined by law, of the town of
New Haven, hereby endorse the application
of the above named for such license.
Daried at New Haven, this 21st day of
June, A. D., 1002.
Edward J. Callahan, P. J. Egan, Patrick
McVaty, John J. Wash, John W. Brady.
125 oaw 2t

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COMMITTEE ON STREETS. COMMITTEE ON STREETS.

The Committee on Streets will meet in Rooms 10 and 11, City Hall, Tuesday, July 1, 1902, at 8 p. m., when the following matters will be considered:

Petition of E. C. Curtis for permission to creet post and sign in front of No. 116 (Church Street.

Petition of the National Wire Corporation for the repairing and grading of Fairmount Avenuc, its full width.

Petition of R. F. Phelan, et al., for a crusined stone pavement, with brick gutters, on Plymouth Street, between Lamberton Street and the Boulevard.

Petition of Irving Fisher, et al., for macadamizing and proper drainage of Prospect Stret, between Division Street and Edward Streets.

Streets, between Division Street and Edward Streets.

Petition of Morris Herman, et al., for a crushed stone pavement, with brick gutters, on Ward Street, between Davenport Avenue and Oak Street.

Petition of the M. J. Beck Co. for permission to erect a sign and post in front of No. 138 Congress Avenue.

Petition of Michael Conney, et al., for the extension of Morris Street across the tracks of the N. Y., N. H. & H. R. R. C.

Petition of H. H. Bostwick for permission to erect sign and post in front of 153 George Street.

Dictrict of New Haven, ss. Probate Court. Dictrict of New Haven, ss. Probate Court.
June 26, 1902.
ESTATE of JAMES SAY, late of New Haven, in said District, deceased.
The Court of Probate for the District of New Haven hath limited and appointed six mouths from the date hereof for the creditors of said deceased to bring in their claims against said estate. Those who neglect to exhibit their claims within said time will be delarged. exhibit their changes
be debarred.
All persons indebted to said estate are
requested to make immediate payment to
JAMES P. BREE.
128 3t Administrator.

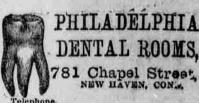
District of New Haven, ss. Probate Court. June 27, 1902.

ESTATE of WILLIAM S. CHARNLEY, late of Chicago, Illinois, owning property in said District, deceased.

The Executor and Trustee having exhibited his administration account and trust account with said estate to this Court for allowance, it is

ORDERED. That the 7th day of July, 1902, at ten o'clock in the forencon, at a Court of Probate to be held in New Haven, in said District, be and the same is appointed for a hearing on the allowance of said account, and this Court directs that notice of the tame and place of said hearing be given by publishing this order three times in some newspaper having a circulation in said District.

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